

# Solid Waste UPDATE



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Get Caught !

## Agricultural Plastic Waste in Kansas

by Kristine Hicks, Bureau of Waste Management

Agricultural plastic waste is becoming more the topic of conversation at landfills, especially in Northwestern Kansas. One common product used is a fiber-reinforced polyethylene tarp for temporary grain storage; another is a very long bag for grain or silage. In addition to "one time use" plastic films there are also many plastic pesticide containers not to mention greenhouse plastics that are being used for their convenience and "value". Suppliers have reported a "massive" year of sales of grain covers to Kansas. Unfortunately, the producers have typically not offered solutions for disposal or recycling.

Bureau of Waste Management inspectors and engineers are reporting that landfills are having problems with disposal of the large pieces of plastic. Trying to pack it down or running over a bale is causing problems to landfill machinery. An equal issue is that the plastic uses valuable landfill space. A few landfills have perfected their method of placing the large tarps in the landfill, others may consider refusing to take it, or charging an extra fee. Because plastic is not generally biodegradable, **on-site burial outside of a landfill is strongly discouraged** for individuals, and the exemption from the permitting requirement for on-site disposal **does not apply** to co-ops or other businesses.



Agricultural plastic contains high value materials that can be then turned into new products such as plastic lumber. Cleaning of bags and tarps becomes the issue for most farmers and ranchers. Since barriers to recycling do crop up, notably;

recyclers prefer that the material be clean, and dry, some basic management actions can easily make a difference. See KDHE guidance document SW-2011-G1 for help on this issue.

Another disadvantage to recycling in NW Kansas, of course, is the distance to the recycling markets. A recycling network would be helpful. Some limited recycling has been taking place and BWM recently held a roundtable discussion in Oakley to share these

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## Waste Acceptance Plans

(Purpose, Content, & Benefits)

by Sam Sunderraj, Bureau of Waste Management

Permitted Solid Waste Disposal Facilities in Kansas have Permit Design Drawings that detail how they are to be constructed and a Facility Operation Plan (FOP) that describes how disposal activities are to be conducted. The FOP covers all aspects of operations at the facility. Sections within the FOP should group related

issues. The first section is the Waste Acceptance Plan (WAP).

The Waste Acceptance Plan needs to list **different kinds** of waste materials that the facility may receive for disposal and describe the **screening procedures** to be followed to ensure that only authorized waste materials are received for disposal.

It also should describe any **special requirements** that may apply to a certain waste stream and define how the **quantity** of waste is to be measured. All components of the plan should be based on **regulatory and statutory** requirements. The WAP should be concise, site-specific and contain clear

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Nov 9-10, 2011  
SWANA/KDHE  
Solid Waste Management  
Conf & Operator Training  
Wichita  
For more information contact:  
Mary Pywell  
mpywell@maswu.org  
620-241-6559 ext 303

# Kansans Respond to Reading and Joplin Tornadoes

by Bill Bider, Director, Bureau of Waste Management

On Saturday evening, May 21, an EF-3 tornado swept through the small Lyon County community of Reading killing one person and destroying or damaging about 200 structures. The next afternoon an EF-5 tornado devastated Joplin, Missouri located just a mile across the Kansas state line from the City of Galena. The power within the Joplin tornado was much like the tornado that destroyed most of Greensburg in May 2007; however, the number and types of structures were much larger and the number of effected people was many thousands. Over 150 people died and 500 were injured by the Joplin storm.

KDHE immediately responded to Reading on Sunday afternoon to help establish a plan for managing debris. Since the Joplin tornado was in Missouri, KDHE did not get involved until about a week later when the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers began asking about available debris disposal sites in Kansas.

## The Reading Response

Working together with state and local government officials, we quickly decided to reopen the old closed City of Reading landfill. This site presented several challenges, but it was located only a couple miles from town which facilitated the transportation of waste which primarily took place in open-topped dump trucks provided by Lyon County and other local governments under mutual aid agreements. The removal and disposal of most of the debris occurred very efficiently over a three week period. KDHE worked closely with Lyon County and special technical assistance was provided by Keith Senn, an employee with the nearby City of Emporia. Over 1600 loads of debris (over 13,000 cubic yards) were taken to the re-opened city landfill which was approved for use under KDHE emergency authority. Lyon County Road and Bridge staff have performed very well not only to operate this temporary landfill but to close the site in accordance with new landfill standards.



## The Joplin Response

Joplin tornado debris first began flowing to Kansas within a couple days of the storm as private businesses promptly initiated clean-up efforts. A week later, the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) began their clean-up work as tasked by FEMA. Early estimates were that as much as 3 million cubic yards needed disposal in southeast Kansas landfills which were considered preferred sites because of their close proximity to Joplin. The only available Missouri landfill was about 50 miles north in Lamar. Several construction and demolition landfills were identified for use, all of which needed to modify operations plans to accommodate much large flows of waste than normal. KDHE worked with landfill owners to ensure that proper and adequate waste screening would take place and other necessary controls were implemented.



The flow of many thousands of tons of debris into Kansas has resulted in many challenges, questions, and concerns. Some people saw it as a way to be a good neighbor during a time of great need; some saw it as an economic opportunity; others wondered why Kansas was getting “dumped on.” KDHE has already spent hundreds of staff hours dealing with the disposal of Joplin debris. We have tried to be helpful to the clean-up effort while ensuring that proper disposal practices were being followed. We have also tried to provide answers to the many public questions that have been raised.

Based upon USACE updated estimates, KDHE expects that about 75 percent of all non-vegetative debris will go to Kansas facilities for a total of a several hundred thousand tons. The majority of the debris is expected to be cleaned up by the end of August. The three landfills in Kansas that are receiving most of the debris include the expanded City of Galena C&D landfill, the B-3 Construction C&D landfill north of Columbus, the WCA Oak Grove MSW landfill located near Arcadia.

# Recyclables and Stormwater Runoff Regulations

by Joe Cronin and Shelley Schupp, Bureau of Waste Management

As per Kansas Statute 65-3402(a), recyclables are not considered “solid waste.” In addition, the recent policy “Solid Waste Processing vs. Recycling” clarifies the criteria used to determine if a facility is a solid waste processing facility (which is required to have a BWM permit) or a recycling facility

(which is not required to have a permit). This policy, BWM 2011-P3, is located on our website at [www.kdheks.gov/waste/p\\_policies.html](http://www.kdheks.gov/waste/p_policies.html)

So, let’s assume that you have contacted Bureau of Waste Management (BWM) regarding your recycling facility and found that a solid waste

processing permit was not required. Even though your material is considered a product, you still need to check with KDHE Bureau of Water (BOW) to determine if an industrial stormwater NPDES permit may be required.

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## Waste Acceptance Plans *(continued from page 1)*

language that the operator can follow, and an inspector use to assure compliance with applicable requirements.

### Different kinds of Waste Materials

A Municipal Solid Waste Disposal Facility can receive a broad spectrum of waste streams but it cannot receive **regulated quantities** of hazardous waste and it cannot receive unprocessed waste tires. A monofill is generally permitted for a single type of waste but permit conditions may authorized the disposal of a small percentage of other materials. The WAP would identify these materials and specify any quantity limits or screening requirements that may apply.

### Screening Procedures

A construction demolition waste landfill has a basic design, and typically no groundwater monitoring requirement. The facility relies primarily on proper screening of waste to ensure compliant and safe environmental operations. The facility WAP must thoroughly describe the screening procedures that are specific to the facility considering the typical customer base.

### Special Waste Requirements

Facilities that receive Special Wastes authorized by KDHE must keep records that document the disposal of these types of wastes. Special wastes may require "special" disposal or management. The WAP should describe these requirements clearly for all operating personnel.

### Quantity

Records of the quantity of waste disposed must be maintained by every landfill. The WAP should describe how this is to be measured. This information may need to be tracked separately for different sources or types of waste. Permit renewal fees for C&D landfills based upon the quantity disposed and soe waste is not subject to the \$1 per ton state tonnage fee. The WAP would clarify what state fees are to be paid for various waste types.

In summary, a concise and site-specific WAP makes it convenient for the operator to follow and maintain compliance. Likewise, it helps the facility maintain credible records relating to the quality and quantity of solid waste received at the disposal facility.

## Kansas Green Teams Photo Contest Winners

*by Megan MacPherson, Bureau of Waste Management*

The Kansas Green Team program announced the 2011 KansasGreenTeams.org Photo Contest winners. Photographers throughout Kansas were invited to submit photos that celebrate the unique character of Kansas. Winning photos will be displayed on the KansasGreenTeams.org home page.



"These photos highlight the exceptional beauty that Kansas has to offer. We hope they will serve as inspiration for Kansans' to do more for their environment in order to preserve our natural resources," said John Mitchell, Director of the Division of Environment, KDHE.

To view all the winners in each category, please visit [www.kansasgreenteams.org/photography-contest-winners](http://www.kansasgreenteams.org/photography-contest-winners).

## New Disposal Without a Permit Authority

*by Stacey Baalman, Bureau of Waste Management*

On July 1, K.S.A. 65-3407c(a)(3), which allows disposal of demolition waste without a solid waste landfill permit, was changed to allow off-site disposal of certain building demolition waste. Prior to July 1, if a property owner wanted to bury demolition waste from a structure, burial had to be at the site where the demolished building or structure was located. Now the disposal of the demolition waste can be taken at another location that is «adjacent to or near» the site where the building or structure was located. Several factors must also be considered prior to obtaining approval from KDHE:

Public safety concerns associated with the building or structure proposed to be demolished.

Proposed plans to redevelop the building site which would be impacted by on-site disposal of debris.

The disposal capacity of any nearby permitted landfill.

On the application form, the property owner must give permission to bury the waste and the signature of someone at the local government level must be obtained prior to submitting the application to KDHE for processing and approval.

The application form for disposal of demolition waste without a permit can be found at [www.kdheks.gov/waste/forms/solidwaste/swlf235-disposal\\_of\\_demo\\_waste\\_on\\_site.pdf](http://www.kdheks.gov/waste/forms/solidwaste/swlf235-disposal_of_demo_waste_on_site.pdf)

## Is a Solid Waste Management Region Right for your County?

by Jeff Walker, Bureau of Waste Management

Counties may have different needs for waste management planning since waste types and programs may vary by county. Neighboring counties can be very similar due to population, geography, waste management programs, etc. Counties that have similar needs can make solid waste planning simpler and increase efficiency by forming a region with neighboring counties.

Reasons for forming solid waste planning regions back in the early 1990s varied due to numerous circumstances such as location of a MSW landfill, recycling programs, special grant funding for regions, or the ability of a regional solid waste committee to work efficiently to manage and plan for solid waste management.

In most cases the region is managed by a representative from a member county or regional planning office that organizes committee meetings and maintains the solid waste management plans (SWMP). The regional representative must be able to coordinate with the committee and provide technical assistance in order to ensure that all waste management activities comply with the SWMP and the plan is being updated. Each member county should operate in a manner that works to improve overall waste management efficiency of the region.

A solid waste management region can be detrimental for an individual county if the region isn't managed efficiently and each county isn't cooperating to prepare annual or five-year updates. A region that does not have an updated SWMP can cause individual counties to lose grant funding for HHW, recycling, Green Schools, E-waste, etc. Inter-local agreements created to keep waste disposal costs down by allowing regional member counties to utilize a MSW landfill can also be in jeopardy if the region isn't managed properly.

Solid Waste Management Regional Committees often find it difficult to convene to discuss regional planning when multiple counties are involved. Regional committees require fewer representatives from each county than if a single county SWM Committee is formed. Establishing a committee of

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## New and Revised Policies and Guidance Documents

by Christine Mennicke, Bureau of Waste Management

BWM publishes numerous documents to assist the regulated community. Policies which interpret or clarify statutory or regulatory requirements can be found on the BWM website at [www.kdheks.gov/waste/p\\_techguides.html](http://www.kdheks.gov/waste/p_techguides.html); Technical Guidance Documents (TGDs) provide technical assistance such as waste handling options and best management practices and can be found at [www.kdheks.gov/waste/p\\_policies.html](http://www.kdheks.gov/waste/p_policies.html). Lists of the solid waste Policies and Technical Guidance Documents that have been issued, revised, or revoked over the past year follow.

### New Solid Waste Policies

- 2010-P3: Permitting Requirements for Dead Animal Burial Sites
- 2011-P1: Processed Waste Tires: Applicability of the Tonnage Fee
- 2011-P2: Cutting Sidewalls out of Tires for Landfill Disposal
- 2011-P3: Solid Waste Processing vs. Recycling
- 2011-P4: Solid and Hazardous Waste Enforcement
- 2011-P5: HHWs that Accept CESQG and KSQG Waste
- 2011-P6: Variances to the Local Government Financial Test

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## Online Survey of Solid Waste Facility Operators

by Dennis Degner,  
Bureau of Waste Management

During the months of September and October, BWM invites you to participate in an on-line survey of solid waste facility operators and managers to assess your training needs as well as past training effectiveness. This survey would supplement the questionnaire provided to all attendees at the annual solid waste facility operator and managerial training conducted by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and the Kansas Chapter of the Solid Waste Association of North America during the past 14 years. The survey will also request your ideas and attitude toward taking short and focused on-line training courses since they can be used to meet specific needs and help reduce travel, food and lodging costs. Some of you already have experience with our Bureau's on-line Household Hazardous Waste training developed by Jessica Willard and Joe Cronin. Our current facility database shows that we have a total of 659 permitted facilities, which are classified into 14 different types. What is even more demanding is the fact that many of you have multiple permitted waste management activities at one or more facilities.

Accordingly, your participation can be defined by the type of facility you manage or operate or

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KDHE Mission:

As the state's environmental protection and public health agency, KDHE promotes responsible choices to protect the health and environment for all Kansans.

[www.kdheks.gov](http://www.kdheks.gov)

# Pick Up America Visiting Kansas

by Megan Macpherson  
Bureau of Waste Management

Pick Up America is a nonprofit organization formed by a group of young adults who are traveling across America picking up trash. They hope their efforts will educate the public about the amount of waste created and inspire a transition towards zero-waste. Their journey began last year and have so far traveled 1,070 miles and collected 115,000 pounds of trash. It is the nation's first contiguous, coast-to-coast roadside litter pickup.



The route started in Assateague Island, Maryland in March 2010, and they will travel through 13 states to before they complete their journey in San Francisco, California sometime in November 2012.

They call themselves Pick Up Artists and they will be walking through 399 miles of Kansas highways picking up trash this fall. We are thrilled that they will make a stop in Topeka on September 30 to be our featured guests at the 2011 Green Team Assembly, held at Crestview Park. One of the Pick Up Artists, Laura Berman, is from Overland Park, and is looking forward to bringing the message home. Davey Rogner, a co-founder of Pick Up America, visited the WORKS! conference in March as a keynote speaker. "We are very excited to travel through Kansas as we have already made a number of local connections and expect to hold a couple large scale events to enliven our zero-waste message throughout the state," Rogner said. A 40 mile day long clean-up is planned from Kansas City to Lawrence on September 24 with the help of the Johnson County Environmental Department. They are also hoping to play their soon-to-be-constructed recycled peace drum on September 11 while they are in the area.

To learn more about Pick Up America, please visit their website <http://pickupamerica.wordpress.com/>. Anyone interested in volunteering or hosting the Pick Up Artists during their trip through Kansas can access their contact information on their website.

# Get to Know KDHE Solid Waste Staff

## Rodney Ferguson

Public Service Executive

Chief, Waste Reduction, Public Education/Grants Unit



### Birthplace:

Kansas City

### Academic:

Kansas State University, B.S.  
Baker University, MBA

### Other Job Experience:

Shawnee County Recycling, Director  
Kansas Legislative Post Audit, Auditor  
Ks Dept of Agriculture, Inspector  
Ks Board of Agriculture, Marketing Specialist  
Sysco Foods, Buyer

### Family:

Married for longer than being single  
Three sons, two dogs, and various stray cats

### Most Recent Vacation:

Walleye fishing

### Little Known Fact:

When with the Kansas Board of Agriculture, traveled to London with Sam Brownback for a promotion of Kansas products at Harrods

## Top 5 MSW Landfills with Respect to Special Waste Disposal

Landfill (Co)	Number of Solid Waste Disposals	Reported Tonnage	Major Waste Type
Deffenbaugh (JO)	388	627,466	PCS & Industrial
Rolling Meadows (SH)	242	54,836	Industrial & WWTP
Resource Recovery (MG)	105	46,907	Industrial
Reno Co LF (RN)	98	26,951	Industrial, Oil & Gas Mfg
Plumb Thicket (HP)	66	30,455	Industrial

PCS - Petroleum Contaminated Soils  
WWTP - Wastewater Treatment Plant



# Beneficial Use Determination: Take a Second Look - Could that Waste be a Byproduct?

by Shelley Schupp, Bureau of Waste Management

Proper disposal of waste is an important part of responsibly managing a business or industry. In the past decade, manufacturers have taken a second look to determine if any part of their waste stream could be reused, reduced or recycled. In doing so, several waste streams have found a legitimate use and, therefore, are considered a byproduct instead of a solid waste destined for a local landfill. In addition to preserving landfill capacity, this is a win-win situation for both the manufacturer as well as the end-user. Companies can add this to their list of green initiatives, and the end-user gains a benefit with minimal cost.

There are two primary types of beneficial use – a civil engineering structural use (such as fly ash in concrete) or land application to support crop growth.

If you think you may have found a use for one or more of your waste streams, you should begin by reviewing and completing the “Application for the Beneficial Use of Industrial Byproducts without a permit” that is available on our bureau website. Most important, the applicant must be able to justify that this is a beneficial use, and not simply an alternate disposal method. As a part of the application requirements, the applicant must:

Supply general information for characterizing the waste. This requires disclosure of the origin of the waste, the physical characteristics of the waste (odors, viscosity etc.), and current disposal practice.

Supply laboratory analysis required for waste characterization. Include lab analysis that is applicable for the waste. Include beneficial parameters such as nitrogen or other nutrients, as applicable. Also include contaminants of concern such as metals, VOCs etc. KDHE will review the laboratory analysis against the The Risk Based Standards for Kansas Manual, the Hazardous Waste Regulations and other resources to verify that this use will not be a detriment to the environment.

Provide specific information about the proposed use. This will include the approximate amount of byproduct, when it will be used and under what conditions. For land applications, calculated agronomic rate for crops are required.

Provide a contingency plan that addresses concerns such as storage availability, disposal facility used when this beneficial use is not possible and stormwater/runoff controls.

Following acceptance by KDHE, the applicant will receive written approval. Typically, KDHE requires an annual report detailing waste material information and verification that the conditions are the same as the original application. If you would like to discuss a potential beneficial use, please don't hesitate to contact Bureau of Waste Management for further information.

## Recyclables and Stormwater

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BOW has the “NPDES Stormwater Runoff from Industrial Activity General Permit Packet” available online ([www.kdheks.gov/stormwater](http://www.kdheks.gov/stormwater)). Facilities with a stormwater discharge associated with industrial activity must request authorization for and obtain coverage under an NPDES permit. Part 1 of the packet explains “What this General NPDES Permit Covers,” and includes industrial activity Category (vi) - Recycling and Reclamation Facilities. If the facility is a wholesale receiver of recyclable material and the storage is exposed to stormwater, the Bureau of Water will probably require permit coverage under the Stormwater Runoff from Industrial Activities General Permit.

If a recyclable material is stored where there is “no exposure” to stormwater, the business should still coordinate with BOW to determine if a “No Exposure Certification” is applicable.

Please contact Bureau of Waste Management if you would like to discuss the applicability of a solid waste processing permit (785-296-1600). Please coordinate with Bureau of Water at 785-296-5545 for further stormwater discharge permit information.



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## Ag Plastic Waste

(continued from page 1)

stories. The problem was characterized from the point of view of the landfill operators, farmers, weed directors and recyclers. A test run of material on hand will be accepted by a plastics recycler in El Dorado. It is hoped that it will show that the material does have value if collected with good management practices.

For pesticide containers, triple rinse eligible containers up to 55 gallons according to instructions for EPA hazardous waste compliance, remove caps and booklets. Collect in a bag, or covered storage. Then, participate in or host regional collection days with free recycling paid for by the pesticide producers through Container Services Network. Mini-bulks can also be recycled through the Tri-Rinse program for a minimal fee. Please contact the Kansas Agribusiness Association for guidance.

The **Pesticide Stewardship Alliance (TPSA) is working on the plastics waste issue.** Read more here: <http://tpsalliance.org/>

- Encourage your pesticide or tarp/bag dealer to sponsor a collection day at least once a month. Distance from facilities seems to be the key. Individuals expect to drive less than 25-50 miles.
- Do not look to local officials to ban land-filling or to allow burning; but they may be able to offer financial incentives for delivery to a distribution/collection facility instead of paying for disposal at the landfill.

## Online Survey

(continued from page 4)

as anonymous. We hope that you will see and believe in the benefits that can occur from this type of survey and how this information will help us update and implement a still higher quality state solid waste operator and managerial training plan in fiscal year 2012 and beyond.

**Please check the Bureau of Waste Management web site [www.kdheks.gov/waste](http://www.kdheks.gov/waste) in early September for the survey form and how you can help us continue to improve the type and quality of training that you believe you and your staff need to help you do your job better and further improve solid waste management in Kansas. We want to thank you in advance for your participation.**

## Policies and Guidance Documents (continued from page 4)

### Revoked Solid Waste Policy

07-01: Permitting Requirements for Wood Waste Processing Facilities

### New Solid Waste TGDs

SW-2010-G1: Wastes Containing Lead-Based Paint

SW-2011-G1: Agricultural Plastic

### Revised Solid Waste TGDs

SW-1998-G6: Disposal of Spoiled or Contaminated Grain

SW 2001-G1: Disposal Options for Large Quantities of Dead Animals

SW-1994-G1: Disposal Options for Small Quantities of Dead Animals

SW-2005-G2: Management Requirements for Specified Risk Material (SRM)

SW-1997-G1: Small Yard-Waste Composting

SW-2008-G1: Tonnage Report and Fee Calculations Form for Landfills

At the time this article was written, the following solid waste TGDs were being revised:

SW 07-01: Disposal Options for Expired or Surplus Medications/  
Pharmaceuticals

SW 04-01: HHW Management at Municipal Solid Waste Landfills and Transfer Stations

SW-1996-G2: Sampling and Analysis Plan for Municipal Solid Waste Landfills

SW-1997-G3: Sampling and Analysis Plan for Small Arid Landfills

SW 08-02: Tonnage Report and Fee Calculation Form for Transfer Stations

### Hazardous Waste

In response to revisions to the hazardous waste regulations, the hazardous waste Policies and TGDs have undergone a major overhaul. These documents can be found at the web addresses given.

## Solid Waste Management Regions

(continued from page 4)

members committed to the region to provide quality solid waste practices and planning for the communities they represent can be challenging. Many committees begin with good intentions but a lack of activity or commitment from members soon becomes a detriment to the success of the region.

Waste management regions can be beneficial to each member county if the region is run efficiently and the SWM Committee remains active. Counties that share a common goal for their waste management programs can further improve their programs by working together.

If your county would like to join or create a SWM region or if you are already in a region that is not meeting your waste management needs, please contact Jeff Walker 785-291-3764 or [jwalker@kdheks.gov](mailto:jwalker@kdheks.gov) if you have any questions.

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## Calendar Items

October 8	Agricultural Pesticide Collection and Empty Container Return events - Dodge City HHW Facility
November 9-10	SWANA/KDHE Solid Waste Management Conference and Operator Training Course - Wichita



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